

LEXINGTON 4 SCHOOL DISTRICT

607 East Fifth Street
Swansea, South Carolina 29160

GRADES PK-12

ENROLLMENT 3,428 Students

SUPERINTENDENT Dr. J. Franklin Vail 803-568-1000

BOARD CHAIR Lawrence Livingston, Jr. 803-568-2328

FISCAL AUTHORITY District Board

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

ANNUAL DISTRICT REPORT CARD

2003

ABSOLUTE RATING:

AVERAGE

Absolute Ratings of Districts with Students like Ours

Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	Unsatisfactory
0	5	12	0	0

IMPROVEMENT RATING:

UNSATISFACTORY

ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS:

N/A

SOUTH CAROLINA PERFORMANCE GOAL

By 2010, South Carolina's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the fastest improving systems in the country.

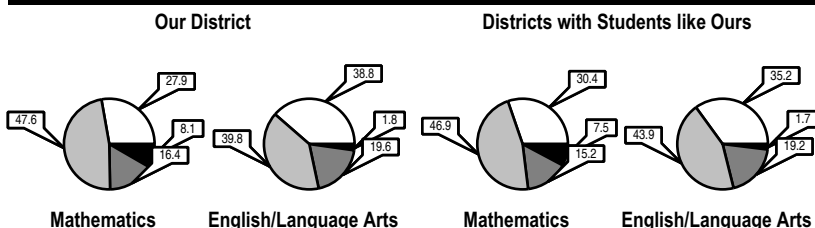
FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT WEBSITES AT:

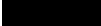



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PERFORMANCE TRENDS OVER 4-YEAR PERIOD

	Absolute Rating	Improvement Rating	Adequate Yearly Progress
2001	Average	Below Average	N/A
2002	Average	Below Average	N/A
2003	Average	Unsatisfactory	N/A
2004			

PALMETTO ACHIEVEMENT CHALLENGE TESTS (PACT) RESULTS**Definition of Critical Terms**

	Advanced	Very high score; very well prepared to work at next grade level; exceeded expectations
	Proficient	Well prepared to work at next grade level; met expectations
	Basic	Met standards; minimally prepared, can go to next grade level
	Below Basic	Did not meet standards; must have an academic assistance plan; the local board policy determines progress to the next grade level

NOTE: Science and social studies are to be included in the 2005 school report card.

TENTH GRADE PASSAGE OF ONE OR MORE SUBTESTS OF THE EXIT EXAM

	Our District			Districts with Students Like Ours		
Percent	2001	2002	2003	2001	2002	2003
Passed all 3 subtests	54.5	60.8	69.7	65.1	65.1	65.2
Passed 2 subtests	25.5	17.1	15.5	18.0	17.9	18.3
Passed 1 subtest	7.9	12.2	4.5	10.3	11.0	9.5
Passed no subtests	12.1	9.9	9.7	6.7	6.0	6.3

ELIGIBILITY FOR LIFE SCHOLARSHIPS

Percent of	Our District	Districts with Students Like Ours
Seniors eligible for LIFE Scholarships at four-year institutions*	11.1	12.5
Seniors who met the SAT requirement	11.1	12.7
Seniors who met the grade point average	40.0	47.6

*Using only the SAT and grade point average requirements

PACT PERFORMANCE BY GROUP

	Enrollment 1st Day of Testing	% Tested	% Below Basic	% Basic	% Proficient	% Advanced	% Proficient and Advanced	State Objective
English/Language Arts								
All students	1,663	99.2	38.8	39.8	19.6	1.8	21.4	17.6
Gender								
Male	872	98.9	47.9	38.3	13.2	0.6	13.8	17.6
Female	791	99.5	29.5	41.3	26.3	3.0	29.2	17.6
Racial/Ethnic Group								
White	1,290	99.1	36.1	41.0	20.7	2.2	22.9	17.6
African-American	341	99.7	47.9	35.6	16.2	0.3	16.5	17.6
Asian/Pacific Islander	4	100.0						17.6
Hispanic	24	95.8	45.5	36.4	18.2		18.2	17.6
American Indian/Alaskan		0.0						17.6
Disability Status								
Not disabled	1,388	99.3	34.2	41.4	22.5	1.9	24.4	17.6
Disabled	275	98.5	63.9	31.2	4.2	0.8	4.9	17.6
Migrant Status								
Migrant		0.0						17.6
Non-migrant	1,663	99.2	38.8	39.8	19.6	1.8	21.4	17.6
English Proficiency								
Limited English proficient	3	100.0						17.6
Non-limited English proficient	1,660	99.2	38.7	39.9	19.6	1.8	21.4	17.6
Socio-Economic Status								
Subsidized meals	1,098	99.0	44.9	38.3	16.2	0.6	16.8	17.6
Full-pay meals	565	99.5	27.1	42.7	26.2	4.0	30.2	17.6

Mathematics								
All students	1,663	99.8	27.9	47.6	16.4	8.1	24.5	15.5
Gender								
Male	872	99.8	29.5	48.8	13.4	8.2	21.6	15.5
Female	791	99.9	26.3	46.3	19.5	8.0	27.5	15.5
Racial/Ethnic Group								
White	1,290	99.8	24.8	46.1	19.1	9.9	29.0	15.5
African-American	341	100.0	39.2	53.5	5.3	2.0	7.3	15.5
Asian/Pacific Islander	4	100.0						15.5
Hispanic	24	100.0	27.3	45.5	27.3		27.3	15.5
American Indian/Alaskan		0.0						15.5
Disability Status								
Not disabled	1,388	99.9	23.6	49.4	17.9	9.1	27.0	15.5
Disabled	275	99.6	51.1	38.0	8.3	2.6	10.9	15.5
Migrant Status								
Migrant		0.0						15.5
Non-migrant	1,663	99.8	27.9	47.6	16.4	8.1	24.5	15.5
English Proficiency								
Limited English proficient	3	100.0						15.5
Non-limited English proficient	1,660	99.8	27.8	47.7	16.4	8.1	24.5	15.5
Socio-Economic Status								
Subsidized meals	1,098	99.7	33.2	49.0	12.7	5.1	17.8	15.5
Full-pay meals	565	100.0	17.7	44.8	23.6	13.9	37.5	15.5

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A Not Applicable

N/C Not Collected

N/R Not Reported

I/S Insufficient Sample

Enrollment 1st Day of Testing	% Tested	% Below Basic	% Basic	% Proficient	% Advanced	% Proficient and Advanced
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Mathematics								
2002	Grade 3	272		22.4	46.4	20.2	11.0	31.2
	Grade 4	268		33.1	41.4	19.2	6.4	25.6
	Grade 5	278		34.3	46.9	12.3	6.5	18.8
	Grade 6	245		39.2	40.0	13.5	7.3	20.8
	Grade 7	241		47.5	32.9	12.5	7.1	19.6
	Grade 8	237		51.9	38.7	7.7	1.7	9.4
2003	Grade 3	272	99.6	15.1	52.1	21.8	10.9	32.8
	Grade 4	285	100.0	22.6	52.5	15.7	9.2	24.9
	Grade 5	295	99.3	34.9	46.8	14.9	3.3	18.2
	Grade 6	297	100.0	28.5	41.9	18.7	10.9	29.6
	Grade 7	260	100.0	48.5	36.7	7.6	7.2	14.8
	Grade 8	254	100.0	27.8	54.3	13.5	4.5	17.9

Terra Nova: a national, norm-referenced achievement test.

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Percentage of students scoring in the upper half, 2002								
Grade	Reading		Language		Math		Total	
	State	Nation	State	Nation	State	Nation	State	Nation
3	49.2	50.0	51.5	50.0	58.2	50.0	54.8	50.0
6	57.6	50.0	49.0	50.0	51.2	50.0	51.4	50.0
9*	56.1	50.0	46.8	50.0	51.6	50.0	51.2	50.0

* Grade 9 estimates were based on a sample that may not be representative of the entire 9th grade population.

National Assessment of Educational Progress: a national, criterion-referenced achievement test.

Test	Grade	Year	Percent of students scoring							
			Advanced		Proficient		Basic		Below Basic	
			State	Nation	State	Nation	State	Nation	State	Nation
Reading	8	2002	1	3	23	30	44	43	32	25
Writing	4	2002	1	2	16	26	65	58	18	14
Mathematics	8	2000	2	5	15	22	37	38	45	34

PERFORMANCE BY STUDENT GROUPS

	Exit Exam Passage Rate by Spring 2003		Eligibility for LIFE Scholarships*		Graduation Rate	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
All Students	145	93.1%	135	11.1%	178	71.9%
Gender						
Male	88	90.9%	78	11.5%	105	67.6%
Female	57	96.5%	57	10.5%	73	78.1%
Race or Ethnic Group						
African American	20	85.0%	20	5.0%	27	66.7%
Hispanic	2	I/S	3	I/S	2	I/S
White	123	94.3%	110	12.7%	147	72.8%
Other	N/A	N/A	2	I/S	2	I/S
Disability Status						
Non-speech disabilities	19	73.7%	4	I/S	17	41.2%
Students without disabilities	126	96.0%	131	11.5%	0	75.2%
Migrant Status						
Migrant	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A
Non-migrant	N/A	N/A	135	11.1%	0	N/A
English Proficiency						
Limited English proficient	N/A	N/A	0	N/A	0	N/A
Non-LEP	145	93.1%	135	11.1%	178	71.9%
Lunch Status						
Subsidized meals	58	91.4%	48	0.0%	62	67.7%
Full-pay meals	87	94.3%	87	17.2%	116	74.1%

* Using only the SAT and grade point average requirements

n = number of students on which percentage is calculated

2002-2003 COLLEGE ADMISSIONS TESTS

SAT	Verbal		Math		Total	
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
District	476	513	473	493	949	1006
State	488	493	493	496	981	989
Nation	504	507	516	519	1020	1026

ACT	English		Math		Reading		Science		Total	
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
District	18.7	17.0	19.3	16.9	18.8	18.8	20.5	18.2	19.6	17.8
State	18.8	18.7	19.1	19.0	19.3	19.4	19.2	19.2	19.2	19.2
Nation	20.2	20.3	20.6	20.6	21.1	21.2	20.8	20.8	20.8	20.8

SCHOOLS IN "SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT STATUS"

	2002	2003
Swansea Primary	Yes	Yes

DISTRICT PROFILE

	Our District	Change from Last Year	Districts with Students Like Ours	Median District
Students (n= 3,428)				
First graders who attended full-day kindergarten	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Retention rate	5.0%	Down from 6.2%	4.3%	4.0%
Attendance rate	92.5%	Down from 94.2%	94.4%	95.4%
Meeting grade 1 & 2 readiness standards	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Eligible for gifted and talented	7.1%	No change	10.0%	10.7%
On academic plans	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
On academic probation	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
With disabilities other than speech	10.9%	Up from 6.7%	11.2%	10.6%
Older than usual for grade	5.0%	Up from 4.4%	5.5%	5.5%
Suspended or expelled	2.4%	Up from 1.7%	1.7%	1.6%
Enrolled in AP/IB programs	3.8%	N/A	N/A	10.0%
Successful on AP/IB exams	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Enrolled in adult education GED or diploma programs	85	Down from 97	113	186
Completions in adult education GED or diploma programs	40	Up from 21	40	40

Teachers (n= 225)

Teachers with advanced degrees	41.8%	Up from 36.9%	45.2%	47.8%
Continuing contract teachers	74.2%	Up from 70.7%	82.8%	82.8%
Highly qualified teachers	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Teachers returning from previous year	80.1%	Up from 79.1%	88.3%	89.5%
Teacher attendance rate	95.1%	Up from 94.9%	95.2%	95.1%
Average teacher salary	\$34,883	Up 2.1%	\$38,759	\$39,707
Prof. development days/teacher	12.5 days	Down from 13.2 days	12.1 days	11.3 days

District

Superintendent's years at district	11.0	Up from 10.0	4.0	3.0
Student-teacher ratio	22.2 to 1	Up from 21.8 to 1	20.4 to 1	20.6 to 1
Prime instructional time	85.6%	Down from 86.4%	88.7%	89.0%
Dollars spent per pupil*	\$6,941	Up 4.3%	\$7,581	\$7,412
Percent spent on teacher salaries*	50.2%	Up from 49.3%	55.3%	56.0%
Opportunities in the arts	Excellent	No change	Excellent	Excellent
Parents attending conferences	88.6%	Up from 83.6%	89.8%	96.1%
Number of schools	6	No change	8	8
Number of magnet schools	0	No change	0	0
Number of charter schools	0	No change	0	0
Portable classrooms	0.4%	Down from 0.5%	2.7%	3.5%
Average age in years of school facility	19	N/A	25	26
Number of schools with SACS accreditation	6	N/A	8	8

* Prior year audited financial data are reported.

	Our District	State
Highly qualified teachers in low poverty schools	N/A	N/A
Highly qualified teachers in high poverty schools	N/A	N/A

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A	Not Applicable	N/C	Not Collected	N/R	Not Reported	I/S	Insufficient Sample
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SCHOOL DISTRICT GOVERNANCE**Board Membership**

7 trustees elected to at-large seats

Fiscal Authority

District Board

Average Number of Hours of Training Annually 80.0 per board member**Percent new trustees completing orientation** 100.0%**DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Lexington School District Four, Gaston-Swansea, is one of the fastest growing school districts in the state with 49.4% increases in student population during the past decade. For the 2002-2003 school year, the district served approximately 3,600 students in preschool through grade 12. With your support, we have made great strides in improving student achievement, parental involvement, and technology use.

The learner standards in the district's strategic plan for 2002-2007 are:

- 1.Students will score ready for first grade as determined by the South Carolina readiness assessment.
- 2.Students will meet the standard on PACT assessment in the areas of English/Language Arts, mathematics, science, and social studies.
- 3.Students will meet the standard on the Exit Exam and end-of-course assessments in the areas of English/Language Arts, math, science and social studies.
- 4.Students will demonstrate the knowledge and skills to enter post-secondary education.

To achieve these standards, the Board of Trustees has placed instruction as their number one priority by reducing class size below state requirements and providing the necessary supplies for teachers to provide appropriate instruction. Additionally, the board is committed to communicating with the community and to providing adequate facilities.

During the 2001-2002 and 2002-2003 school years, the district has experienced continued erosion in state funding, jeopardizing the district's ability to achieve the learner standards. We are committed to providing the very best educational program possible for the students of our district. Citizens of Lexington School District Four have shown their financial support for quality education. Now is the time to demand that state government show support by increasing educational funding rather than cutting educational funding.

J. Franklin Vail, Ph.D., Superintendent

DEFINITIONS OF DISTRICT RATING TERMS

- Excellent - District performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Good - District performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Average - District performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Below Average - District is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Unsatisfactory - District performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal